

599



THE INVINCIBLE

IRON MAN



DID
YOU MISS
ME?

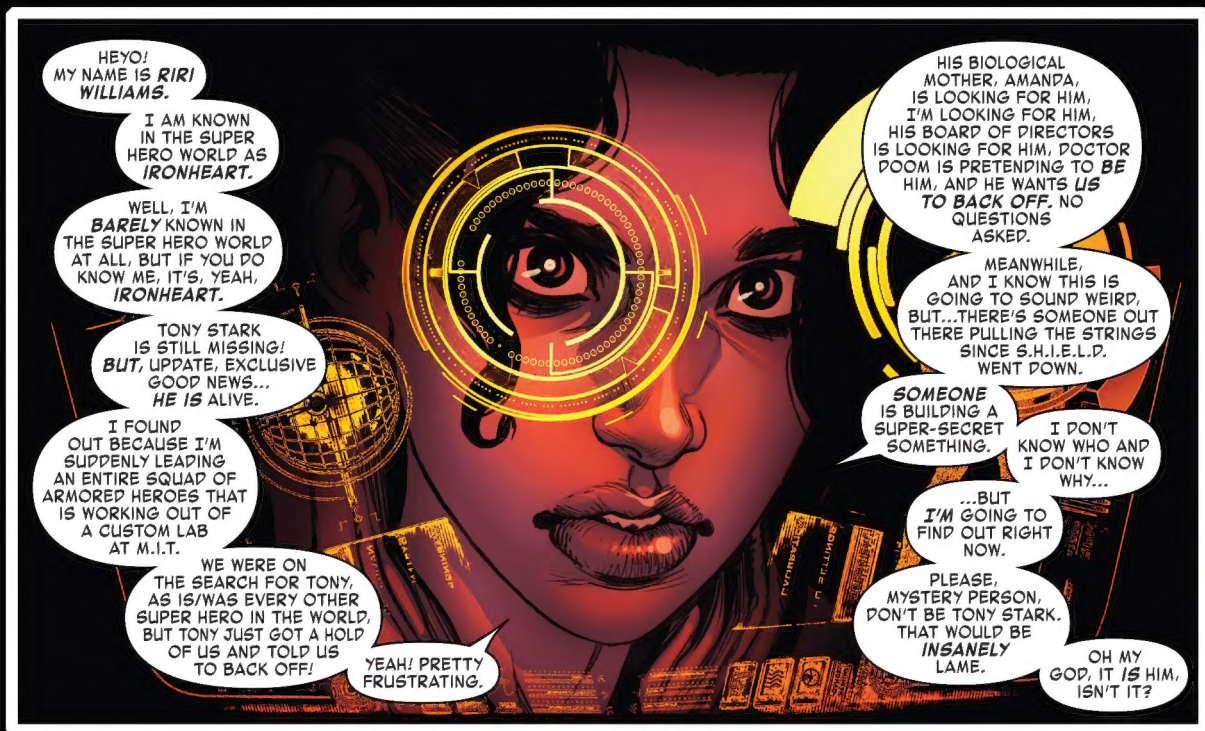
CS
KS

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

**BRIAN
MICHAEL
BENDIS**
WRITER

**STEFANO CASELLI
& ALEX MALEEV**
ARTISTS

**MARTE GRACIA
& ALEX MALEEV**
COLOR ARTISTS

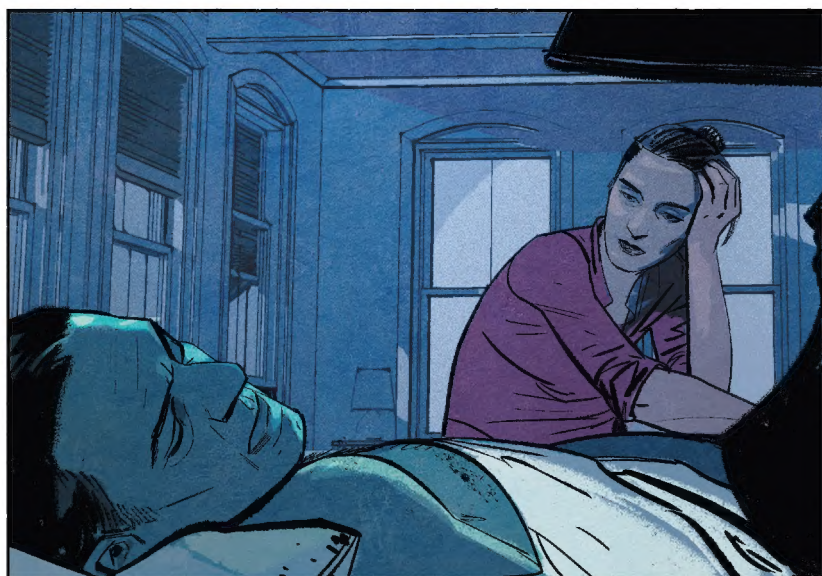


THE SEARCH FOR TONY STARK Part Seven

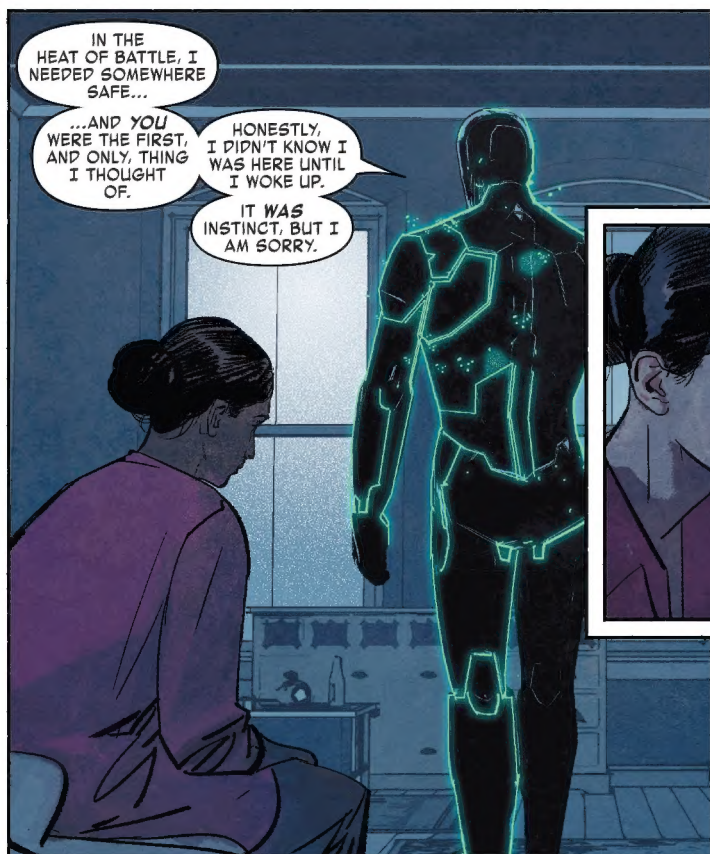
VC's CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER & PRODUCTION
CHRIS SPROUSE, KARL STORY & MARTE GRACIA COVER ARTISTS

ALANNA SMITH ASSISTANT EDITOR TOM BREVOORT EDITOR
C.B. CEBULSKI EDITOR IN CHIEF JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PRESIDENT ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK AND JACK KIRBY





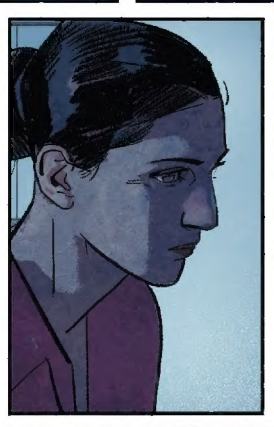


IN THE
HEAT OF BATTLE, I
NEEDED SOMEWHERE
SAFE...

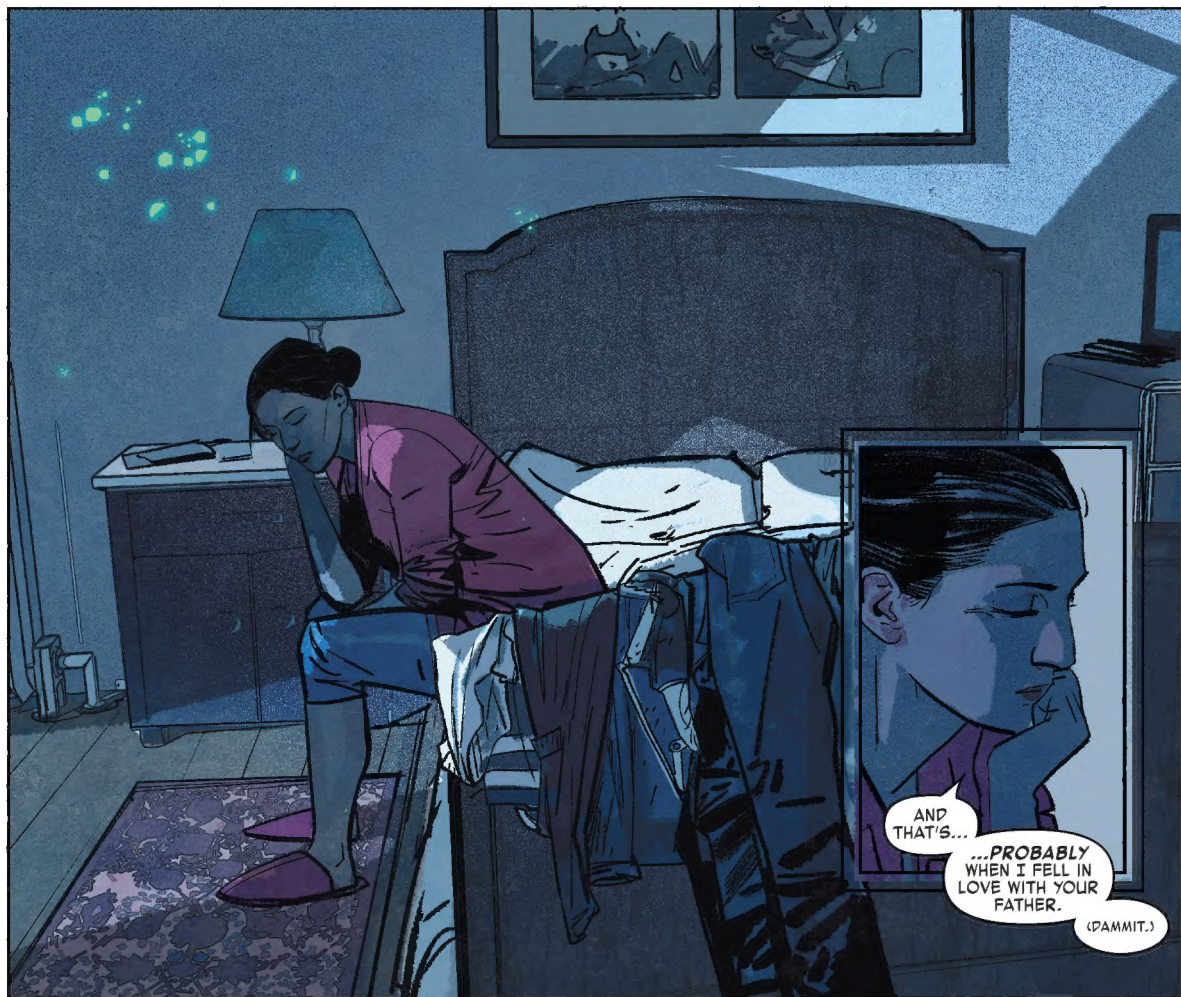
...AND YOU
WERE THE FIRST,
AND ONLY, THING
I THOUGHT
OF.

HONESTLY,
I DIDN'T KNOW I
WAS HERE UNTIL
I WOKE UP.

IT WAS
INSTINCT, BUT I
AM SORRY.



THANK
YOU FOR NOT
CALLING THE
AUTHORITIES.



AND
THAT'S...

...PROBABLY
WHEN I FELL IN
LOVE WITH YOUR
FATHER.

(DAMMIT.)

THE SOFITEL HOTEL.

NEW YORK.



AMANDA...

...I'M GOING
TO GO TRY TO
REMEMBER WHERE
I LIVE.

ARE YOU
GOING TO BE
OKAY?

OH, YOU KNOW,
ERIC LYNCH FROM
THE "STARK BOARD OF
D-BAGS."

WHO WAS
THAT ON THE
PHONE, MJ?



IS HE
GOING TO SUE
ME?

FOR
HITTING HIM
WITH A CLASSIC
GUITAR?
YEAH.

WIMP.

OH,
YEAH.

ANY
WORD ON
TONY?



NOTHING CONCRETE.

BUT I KNOW A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT THIS. ANY SECOND TONY WILL PROBABLY--

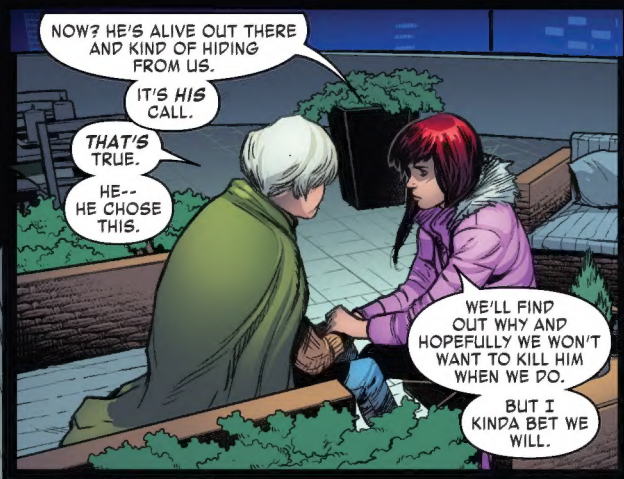
I FAILED HIM.

NO.

I FAILED HIM, M.J.

SEE...IF HE WERE DEAD SOMEWHERE OR MISSING? SURE. BUT...

...HE RAN OFF AND DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND.



NOW? HE'S ALIVE OUT THERE AND KIND OF HIDING FROM US.

IT'S HIS CALL.

THAT'S TRUE.

HE-- HE CHOSE THIS.

WE'LL FIND OUT WHY AND HOPEFULLY WE WON'T WANT TO KILL HIM WHEN WE DO.

BUT I KINDA BET WE WILL.



YES! HE'S IN *SUCH* TROUBLE WHEN WE FIND HIM.

WHAT'S THE AGE LIMIT ON GROUNDING YOUR SUPER HERO BILLIONAIRE OFFSPRING?

IN HIS CASE, A YEAR OLDER THAN WHATEVER AGE HE SAYS HE IS.



WELL, ERIC LYNCH DID *ALSO* SAY THEY WERE GOING TO SEIZE THE COMPANY ASSETS ON MONDAY IF TONY DOESN'T MATERIALIZE, SO THERE'S THAT, TOO.

I'M GOING TO SIT IN THIS RIDICULOUS HOTEL ROOM AND HATE EVERYONE.

CALL ME WITH *THIS PHONE* BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE.

OKAY?



MARY JANE, I KNOW WE'VE ONLY KNOWN EACH OTHER A SHORT WHILE...

...BUT I THINK I ABSOLUTELY ADORE YOU.



RIGHT BACK AT YOU, MA'AM.





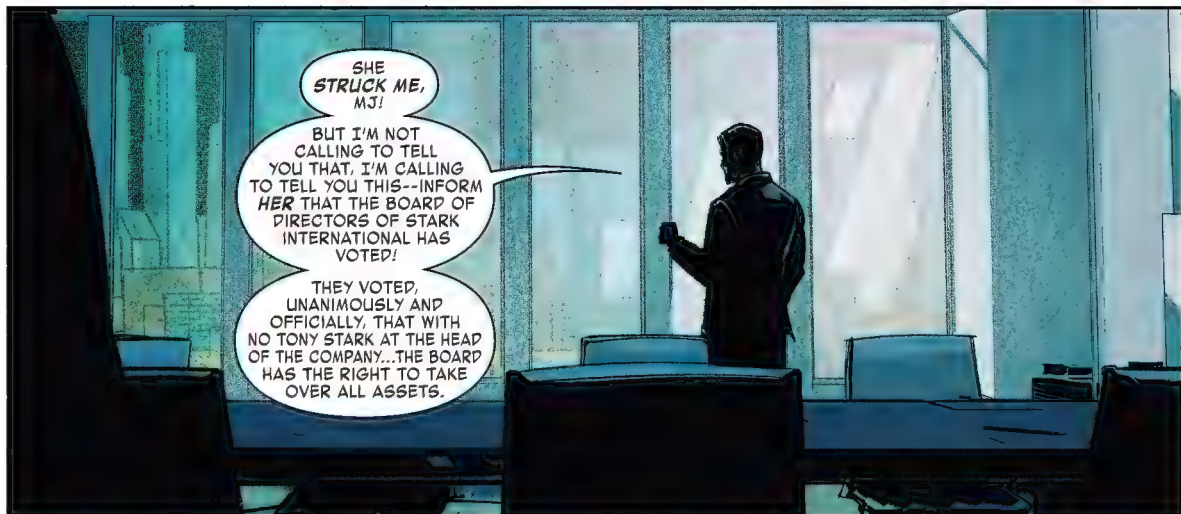




STARK INDUSTRIES BOARDROOM!

YES, MJ WATSON!

YOU CAN TELL MISS ARMSTRONG THAT I HOPE SHE SOLD A LOT OF **CONCERT T-SHIRTS** IN THE '80s BECAUSE I AM COMING FOR EVERY DIME SHE EVER MADE!



SHE **STRUCK ME**, MJ!

BUT I'M NOT CALLING TO TELL YOU THAT, I'M CALLING TO TELL YOU THIS--INFORM **HER** THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF STARK INTERNATIONAL HAS VOTED!

THEY VOTED, UNANIMOUSLY AND OFFICIALLY, THAT WITH NO TONY STARK AT THE HEAD OF THE COMPANY...THE BOARD HAS THE RIGHT TO TAKE OVER ALL ASSETS.



ON MONDAY, YOUR COMPANY IS OURS!

OOOOOH, NO %%%&!



SO TONY STARK IS MISSING?

WHO-- WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?



NEW YORK CITY.

...THE WOLVES ARE AT THE DOOR.

THE WOLVES?

NOT RIGHT THIS VERY SECONDP.

THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE YOUR COMPANY AWAY.

AMANDA, THIS IS FRIDAY.

TONY IS ONLINE AND CAUGHT UP WITH EVERYTHING AND VERY AWARE OF THE HELL HIS LIFE HAS BECOME.

TO BE FAIR, IT IS A HELL YOU HELPED MAKE.

HEY, I'M JUST THE A.I. AROUND HERE.

UH-HUH.

AND YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU ABOUT YOUR FATHER?

NOW?

EVER SINCE MY NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE--

FIVE BLOODY MINUTES AGO...

--I'VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH NATURE VERSUS NURTURE.

GENETICS VERSUS ENVIRONMENT.

I'M OBSESSED WITH WHAT I THOUGHT WAS MY ADOPTIVE FATHER'S INFLUENCE ON ME, WHICH MAY HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN MY BIOLOGICAL FATHER'S INFLUENCE ON ME. BUT--

--BUT I NEVER MET MY BIOLOGICAL FATHER. I WILL NEVER MEET HIM. SO I HAVE TO ASK YOU, BECAUSE YOU ACTUALLY KNEW HIM AND YOU'RE THE ONE WITH--

TONY, STOP!

YOUR BIOLOGICAL FATHER IS THOR.



WHAT?

OH,
I LOVE
HER.



TONY, DARLING... THAT
WAS A JOKE. SETTLE
DOWN.

YOU'RE AN ADULT
MAN OF A GREAT DEAL OF
ACCOMPLISHMENT...

THERE'S
ONLY YOU IN
YOU.

JEEZ.

THAT--THAT
THOR JOKE
RATTLED ME.

SORRY.

I WAS DOING
THE MATH IN
MY HEAD AND--

I TOLD
YOU--YOUR FATHER WAS
ONCE A S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT, TOO.

EXCEPT NOT
REALLY BECAUSE HE
WAS A SECRET DOUBLE
AGENT FOR
HYDRA.



AND YOU
KILLED HIM.



WHEN I
WAS PREGNANT
WITH YOU.

IN THE
FIELD.

SELF-
DEFENSE.

OH.

YEAH.



HE WAS
A BAD GUY,
TONY.

BUT REALLY
SMART.

SCARY SMART.
HANDSOME.

YEAH?

SCARY
HANDSOME.

IT
IS A FAMILY
CURSE.

WHAT ARE
YOU ASKING,
TONY?

WHY DID
YOU KILL
HIM?



HE WAS GOING TO TAKE YOU TO HYDRA AND I WASN'T GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN.

OH, HEY.

THANKS FOR THAT.

IF I NEVER SAID SO.



BUT I KNEW THIS MEANT HYDRA KNEW OF YOU AND I HAD TO HIDE YOU. AND HOWARD STARK OFFERED TO HELP.

(I DIDN'T THINK HE MEANT TO HELP THAT MUCH.)

SEE, I'M MORE FOCUSED ON THE "SMART GUY MAKING DARKER CHOICES."

LIKE WHAT MOTIVATED YOUR FATHER?

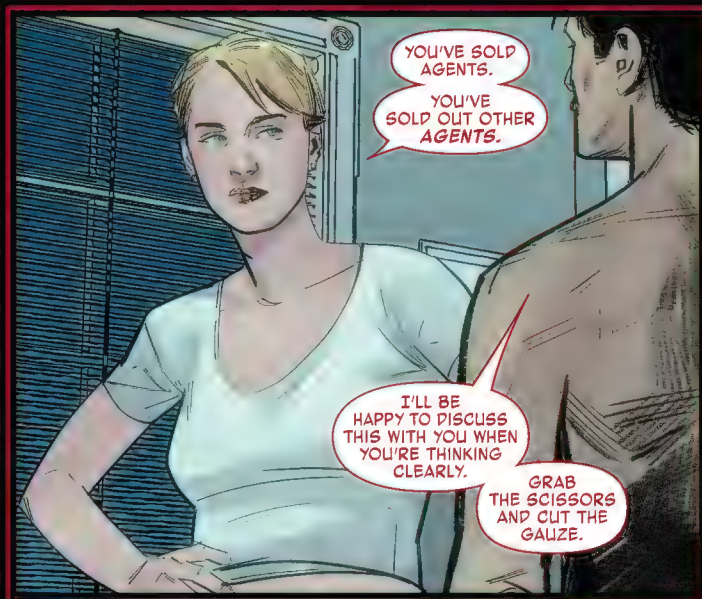
EXACTLY.

POWER? GREED? HYDRA REALLY SOLD THEMSELVES WELL BACK THEN...

HE WAS SURE HE WAS RIGHT.



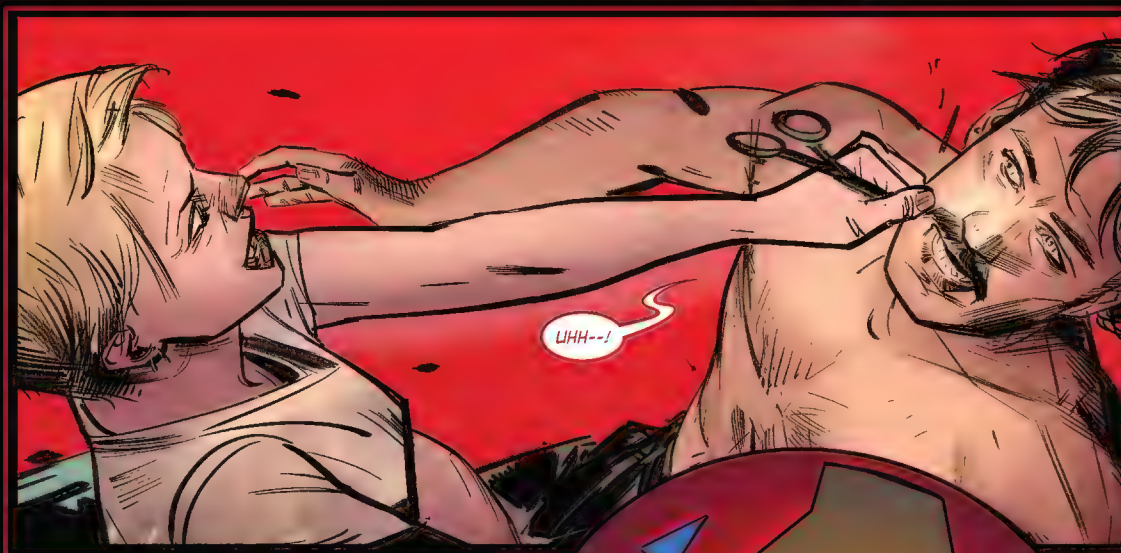
YEAH...



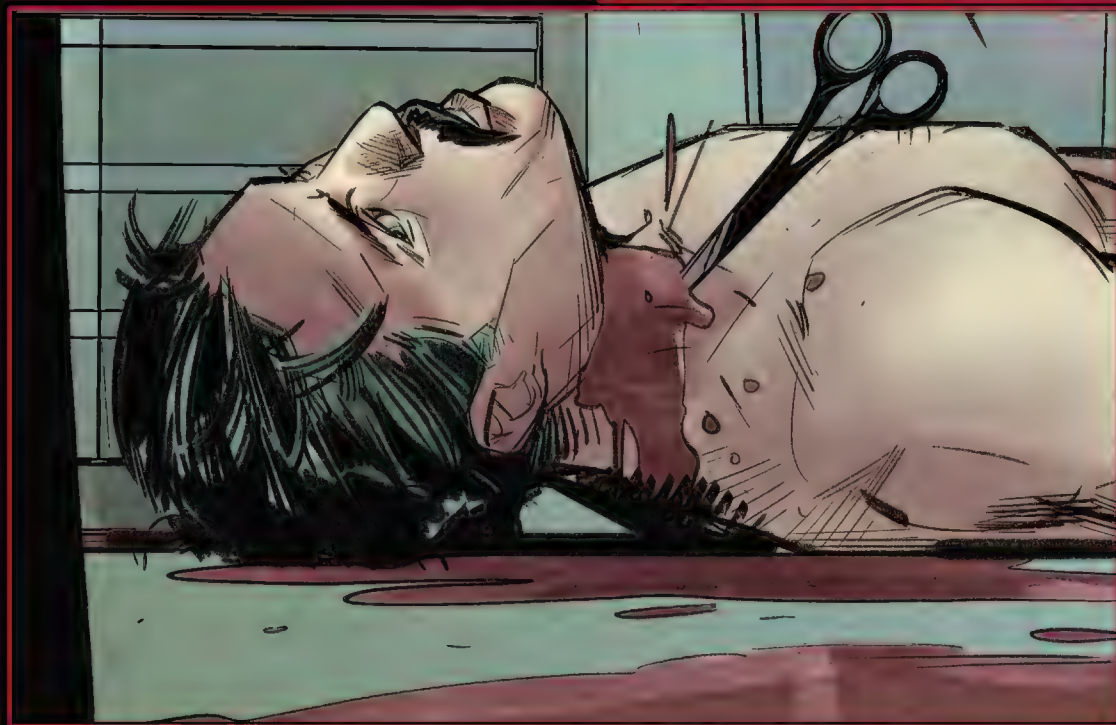
YOU'VE SOLD AGENTS. YOU'VE SOLD OUT OTHER AGENTS.

I'LL BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THIS WITH YOU WHEN YOU'RE THINKING CLEARLY.

GRAB THE SCISSORS AND CUT THE GAUZE.



UHH--!



HE WAS VERY SURE HE WAS RIGHT.

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ABOUT THIS?

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?



JUST TRYING TO JUSTIFY A VERY BAD AND SELFISH CHOICE...



JAMES "RHODEY" RHODES
SOC - SEAL ONE
LTN UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS
AVENGER
SHIELD
SEPTEMBER 7 - JUNE 8
PURPLE HEART
SKRULL INVASION
OPERATION IRAQI
FREEDOM



NOW,
TONI.

PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY.



I'M NOT SURE
THIS IS THE RIGHT
TIME TO GET INTO
THIS, RIRI.

COME ON,
TONI.

I WANT
TO MEET THE
MYSTERY MAN IN
CHARGE.

BUT IT'S
NOT LIKE--
NOW.



TONI'S TRYING TO TELL
YOU SHE CAN'T TELL YOU
WHO THE MYSTERY MAN IN
CHARGE OF OUR NEW
COLLECTIVE DESTINY IS...

...BECAUSE SHE
DOESN'T KNOW
WHO IT IS.



MADISON, THAT'S AN
OVERSIMPLIFICATION--

YOU DON'T
KNOW WHO
IT IS?

I KNOW
ENOUGH.

HE GOT
M.I.T. TO GIVE US
THE KEYS, HE PUT US
TOGETHER...

I KNOW PEOPLE
WHO KNOW AND
THOSE PEOPLE
ARE SERIOUS
PLAYERS.



YOU HAVE NO
IDEA WHO IT--

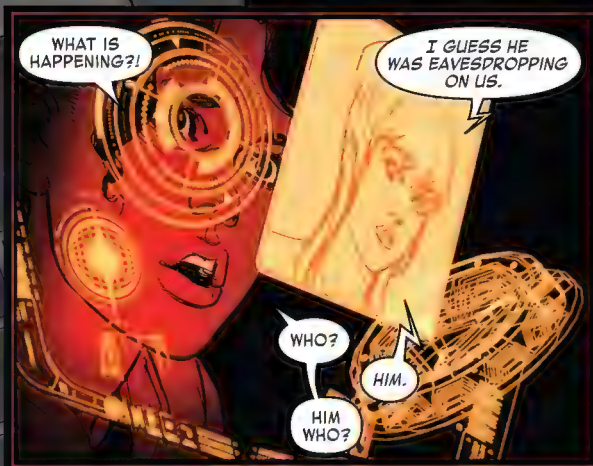
WHOOOPS.

WHOA!



JUST LET IT
HAPPEN!

LET WHAT
HAPPEN?



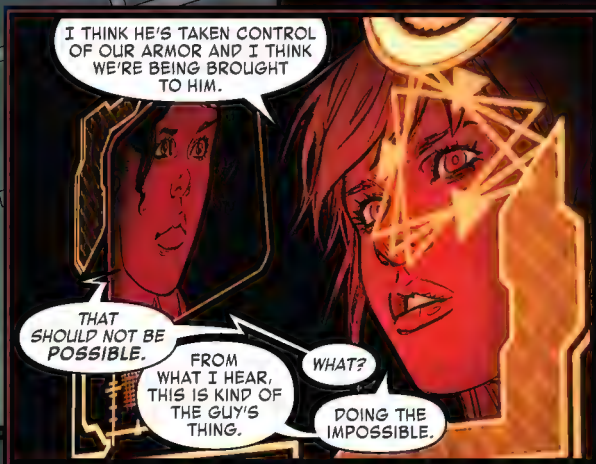
WHAT IS
HAPPENING?!

I GUESS HE
WAS EAVESDROPPING
ON US.

WHO?

HIM.

HIM
WHO?



I THINK HE'S TAKEN CONTROL
OF OUR ARMOR AND I THINK
WE'RE BEING BROUGHT
TO HIM.

THAT
SHOULD NOT BE
POSSIBLE.

FROM
WHAT I HEAR,
THIS IS KIND OF
THE GUY'S
THING.

WHAT?

DOING THE
IMPOSSIBLE.



NO!
HACKING
MY CLOSED
ARMORED SYSTEM
SHOULD BE
IMPOSSI--

HELLO, MISS
WILLIAMS.

UH,
HELLO?

TONI
HO WAS
RIGHT.

I HAVE
MOMENTARILY
TAKEN OVER YOUR
ARMOR AND I AM
FLYING YOU
TO ME.



I AM REALLY NOT
ENJOYING THIS!

BUT YOU
WANT TO MEET
ME AND I NEED MY
LOCATION TO REMAIN
SECRET FOR JUST
A LITTLE WHILE
LONGER.



I AM
NOT AGREEING
TO THIS! YOU'RE
KIDNAPPING
ME!

I DO NOT
AUTHORIZE THE
USE OF MY TECH
FOR YOUR--



OH!

HI!

A full-page comic panel featuring a man with long, wavy blonde hair and a beard, dressed in a white long-sleeved shirt with a lace-up front and brown leather suspenders. He is standing between two large, dark blue, wing-like structures. The background is a vibrant green with a bokeh effect. Several speech bubbles are positioned to the left of his head.

MY NAME
IS LEONARDO
DA VINCI.

YES, THAT
ONE.

I'M THE
REAL LEONARDO
DA VINCI.

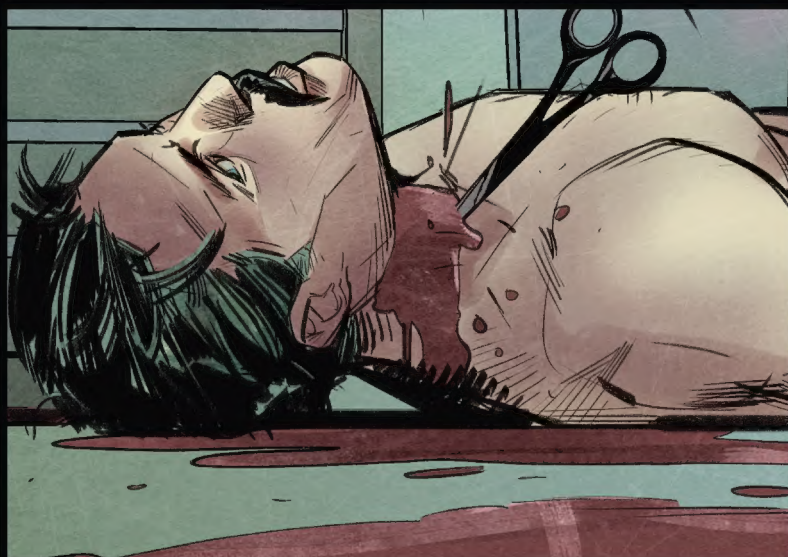
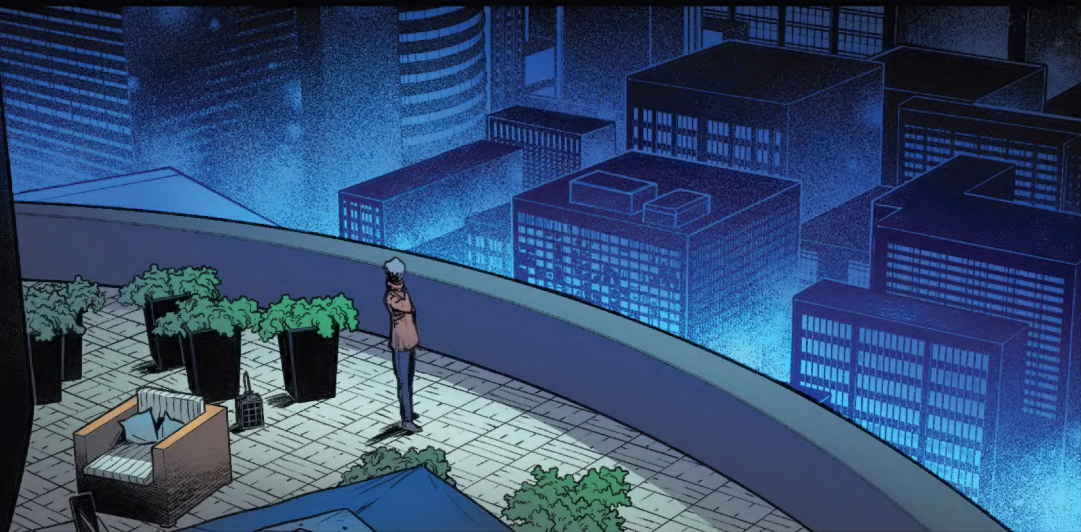
AND MANY
YEARS AGO, I
HELPED INVENT
S.H.I.E.L.D.

AND NOW
IT'S GONE AND
IT'S LONG PAST TIME
FOR A NEW
THING.

AND I
THINK THAT NEW
THING INVOLVES
YOU.

ALL OF
YOU.





I
KNOW...

...BUT I
COULDN'T STAY
AWAY.

IT'S OUR
SON.

I
WANT TO MEET
HIM.



TO BE
CONCLUDED!

NEXT ISSUE: INVINCIBLE IRON MAN # 600



David Marquez, Daniel Acuña, Leinil Francis Yu, Jim Cheung, Mike Deodato Jr., Mark Bagley and more join Stefano Caselli and Alex Maleev to celebrate the explosive finale of Brian Michael Bendis' beloved run. Don't miss **THE RETURN OF TONY STARK!**

Send letters to MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and don't forget to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT"!